



City of Granite City

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Historical Architecture Review Committee

Minutes

November 23, 2010

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman, Ron Laboray, called the meeting of the HARC Commission to Order at 5:00 PM.

ATTENDANCE / ROLL CALL

Members Present were: Ron Laboray, Henry Gabriel, Terry Pierce and Eric Hill. Excused absences: Paula Hagnauer and Kim King.

Also present were: Alderman Dan McDowell and Jon Ferry (Economic Development Director).

MINUTES & AGENDA

A motion to approve the Minutes from the October 26, 2010 meeting and the Agenda for this meeting was made by Terry Pierce and seconded by Eric Hill. Voice vote. All ayes. Motion carried by unanimous consent.

CHAIR COMMENTS

The Chair thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and announced the tremendous success and great community response for the *Iron Pour* and the Grand Opening of the SIU Edwardsville digital photography exhibition at the newly established *APO Art Gallery*. Among noted guests were 40 sculpture artisans, Noah Kirby (Washington University in STL) and the Six Mile Sculpture Institute. The weekend attendance was believed to be about 400 people. The Chair announced the sand-cast and metal melt Iron Pour will be an annual event.

PETITIONER: Alicia's Flower Bucket
1316 Niedringhaus Avenue
Helen Dickinson, Proprietor

Spokesman, Neal Dickinson, introduced himself and gave a brief explanation of his wife's proposal to bestow the name of their Flower Shop business to the memory of their deceased daughter, Alicia, and to establish monetary security for her six year old daughter (their young granddaughter).

The flowers of choice will be fresh (clip-flower) roses and carnations. Mr. Dickinson predicts a large volume to make for lower prices. He stated the life of a flower is approximately 30 days and as the days pass, the prices will be lowered. Their shop will offer flower arrangements for funerals, reception and party supplies, weddings and special occasions.

The Petitioner stated the name of the business changed from Alicia's Flower Basket to Alicia's Flower Bucket and a color photograph of proposed window signage was distributed (Attachment A). Mr. Dickinson stated the sign will be an inside-the-shop sign and will be vinyl decal. The word "Flower" written in the bucket (as pictured) will be omitted and the word "Roses" will be printed in its place.

The Petitioner proposed hours from 7:00 AM to 5:30 PM Monday thru Friday and Saturday 9:00AM to 2:00 PM and no business on Sunday.

The following discussions followed:

- 1). The concern for longer hours and special events was discussed. Alderman Dan McDowell suggested modification of operating hours, considering Holidays and Special events.
- 2). The size of the vinyl sign was questioned. Henry Gabriel reminded the Petitioner HARC is a recommending body to the City Council and they will have the final determination at their next Council meeting scheduled on Tuesday, December 7, 2010. The Committee believed the sign meets the size requirement of 1 sq. ft. per 2 ft. linear space, however, the Petitioner would need to obtain the necessary permit and approval by Steve Willaredt, the Zoning Administrator.
- 3). The Chairman stated nothing toxic can be thrown in dumpster. A dumpster located in the rear of building, will require screening.
- 4). Petitioner stated there will be no outside lighting. He has contracted *New Fast Signs* in Cahokia for a proposal for a small neon red rose with greenery to hang on an interior wall.

The Chair asked for further questions or comments. Eric Hill asked when he planned to open the shop and the Petitioner replied as soon as he completes the cosmetic remodeling: Painting, some paneling and new carpet.

MOTION by Terry Pierce and seconded by Henry Gabriel to approve the Petition to allow for the establishment of Alicia's Flower Bucket at 1316 Niedringhaus. Voice vote. All ayes. Motion carried by unanimous consent.

MOTION by Terry Pierce and seconded by Henry Gabriel to modify the days and hours of operation as follows: 7:00 AM to 5:30 PM Monday thru Friday and Saturday 9:00AM to 2:00 PM. and hours of operation may be extended for seasonal and occasional Sunday events (holidays) Voice vote. All ayes. Motion carried by unanimous consent.

NEW BUSINESS

Henry Gabriel questioned progress for old YMCA Building. His concern is the deterioration and maintenance of a building which has been vacant for a long period of time. The Chair responded by stating there is a group in the arts and academics that are attempting to secure a 501C3 Grant to establish an art center with both fine and performing arts. The group is at a very early collective stage and the realization of needing five or six million dollars in grant money makes the effort a very large one. The Chair stated he is open to any other suggestions for the YMCA and for any of the vacant buildings in the downtown area.

Eric Hill expressed the need for advertisement for downtown grand openings and events. Jon Ferry, Economic Development Director, stated the new Granite City website was launched yesterday 11-22-10; granitecity.illinois.gov. Eric stated outreach is important and we need to push it. So much is happening in the downtown area, but most people are unaware of events. Not everyone has access to the website.

Suggestions from the committee included:

- 1). Something like an advertising jumbo-tron at the fire stations.
- 2). Illuminated Billboards, like the one at the High School located on Madison Avenue.
- 3). Chamber of Commerce advertising.
- 4). Rotary Club advertising.
- 5). Multi-media announcements.
- 6). Advertise in the "Advantage".
- 7). Points of contact, like the place mats at the Apple Tree Restaurant.
- 8). A preview of "What's Happening", for example: a series of 5 second slide presentations to be shown in the Cinema before the featured movie.

MOTION by Henry Gabriel and seconded by Eric Hill to recommend to the City Council they provide a means to advertise the downtown social calendar and new businesses in the Arts and Entertainment District. Voice Vote. All ayes. Motion carried by unanimous consent.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

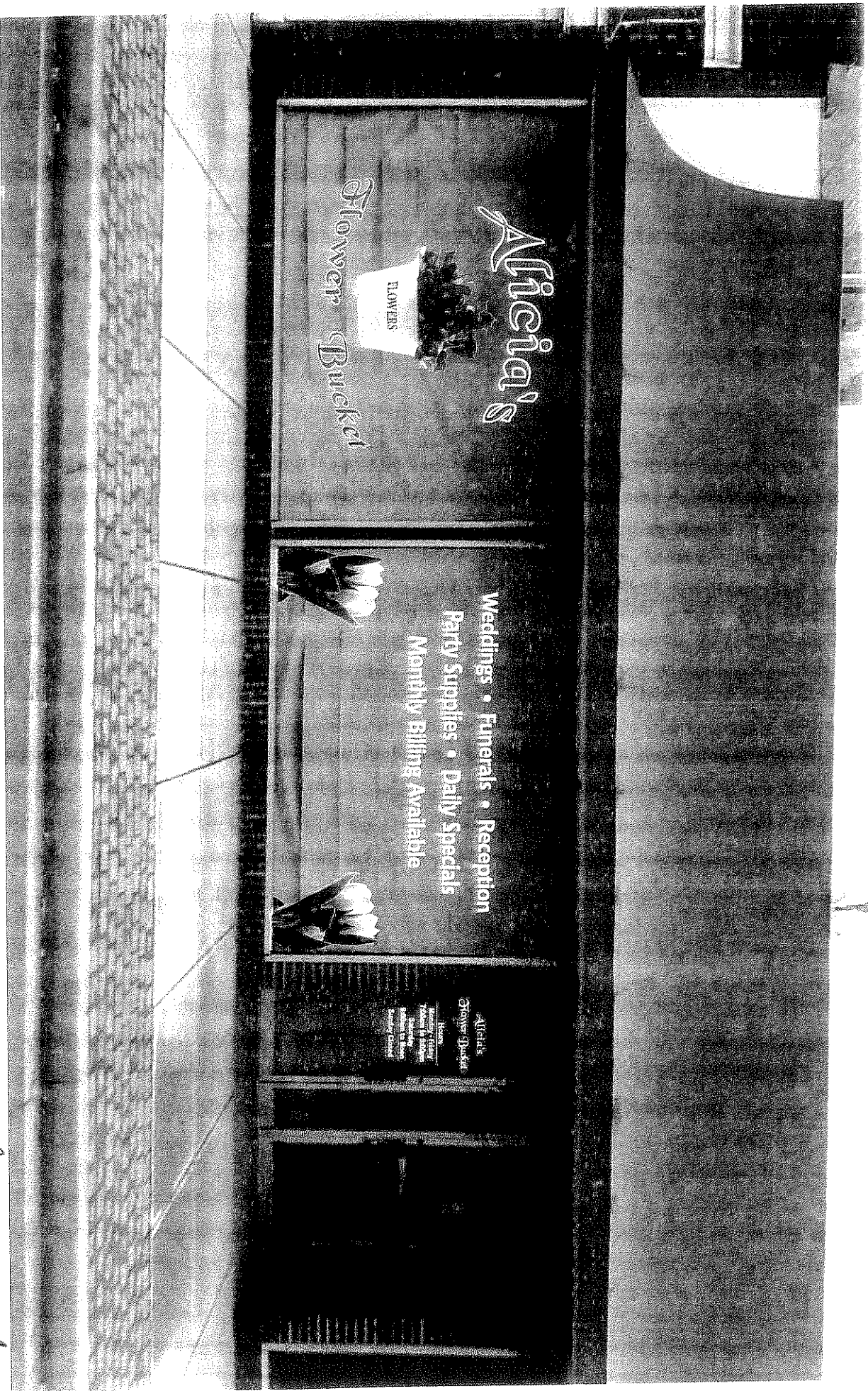
None voiced.

Motion to Adjourn by Eric Hill and seconded by Terry Pierce. All ayes. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by,

Barbara Hawkins

Secretary, HARC



ATTACHMENT A

**Historical Architecture Review Committee
Advisory Report
November 23, 2010**

**PETITIONER: Alicia's Flower Bucket
Helen Dickinson
1316 Niedringhaus**

MOTION by Terry Pierce and seconded by Henry Gabriel to allow for the establishment of Alicia's Flower Bucket at 1316 Niedringhaus.

Voice Vote: All ayes.

Motion passed by unanimous consent.

MOTION by Terry Pierce and seconded by Henry Gabriel to accept the modified days and hours of operation for Alicia's Flower Bucket as follows:

7:00 AM to 5:30 PM Monday thru Friday and Saturday 9:00AM to 2:00 PM.
and hours of operation may be extended for seasonal and occasional Sunday
events (holidays)

Voice Vote: All ayes.

Motion passed by unanimous consent.

MOTION by Henry Gabriel and seconded by Eric Hill to recommend to the City Council they provide a means to advertise the downtown social calendar and Grand Opening of newly established businesses in the Arts and Entertainment District.

Voice Vote: All ayes.

Motion passed by unanimous consent.